

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A modified Staphylococcal enterotoxin B (SEB) having a reduced reactivity with a neutralizing antibody to SEB (anti-SEB antibody).

2. (Original) The modified SEB of claim 1 wherein the reactivity with the anti-SEB antibody was reduced by introducing arbitrary amino acid substitution in the amino acid sequence of SEB.

3. (Original) The modified SEB of claim 2 wherein the amino acid substitution was introduced at an epitope recognition site of the anti-SEB antibody in the amino acid sequence of SEB.

4. (Currently Amended) The modified SEB of claim 2
| ~~or 3~~ wherein the amino acid substitution was introduced within a

region from Lys at 226-position to Lys at 229-position in the amino acid sequence of SEB.

5. (Original) The modified SEB of claim 4 wherein the amino acid sequence of from 226-position to 229-position in the amino acid sequence of SEB is Leu Phe Ala Ala.

6. (Original) The modified SEB of claim 4 wherein the amino acid sequence of from 226-position to 229-position in the amino acid sequence of SEB is Ala Thr Thr Gln.

7. (Original) The modified SEB of claim 4 wherein the amino acid sequence of from 226-position to 229-position in the amino acid sequence of SEB is Lys Arg Ile Ile.

8. (Currently Amended) The modified SEB of ~~any one of claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1 wherein Asn at 23-position in the amino acid sequence of SEB is substituted with Tyr.

9. (Currently Amended) A prophylactic/remedy adapted for immunopathy comprising as an active ingredient the modified SEB as set forth in ~~any one of claims 1 to 8~~ claim 1, wherein said prophylactic/remedy has a reduced immunological response to SEB and an inhibitory activity to T cell activation.

10. (Original) The prophylactic/remedy for immunopathy of claim 9 wherein said immunopathy is rheumatoid arthritis.

11. (Currently Amended) The prophylactic/remedy for immunopathy of claim 9 ~~ex-10~~ which is in a form for oral administration.

12. (New) The modified SEB of claim 2 wherein Asn at 23-position in the amino acid sequence of SEB is substituted with Tyr.

13. (New) The modified SEB of claim 3 wherein Asn at 23-position in the amino acid sequence of SEB is substituted with Tyr.

14. (New) The modified SEB of claim 4 wherein Asn at 23-position in the amino acid sequence of SEB is substituted with Tyr.

15. (New) The modified SEB of claim 5 wherein Asn at 23-position in the amino acid sequence of SEB is substituted with Tyr.

16. (New) The modified SEB of claim 6 wherein Asn at 23-position in the amino acid sequence of SEB is substituted with Tyr.

17. (New) The modified SEB of claim 7 wherein Asn at 23-position in the amino acid sequence of SEB is substituted with Tyr.

18. (New) A prophylactic/remedy adapted for immunopathy comprising as an active ingredient the modified SEB as set forth in claim 8, wherein said prophylactic/remedy has a reduced immunological response to SEB and an inhibitory activity to T cell activation.

19. (New) The prophylactic/remedy for immunopathy of claim 18 which is in a form for oral administration.

20. (New) The prophylactic/remedy for immunopathy of claim 18 wherein said immunopathy is rheumatoid arthritis.